

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

We claim:

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1. (currently amended) A process for preparing haloalkanes ~~by reaction of comprising~~ reacting alcohol with hydrogen halide, wherein the reaction of the alcohol with the hydrogen halide occurs in the presence of an ionic liquid at a temperature which is above 100°C for at least part of the time and, at least at the time of commencement of the 10 reaction, the water content is not more than 25 mol% based on the amount of ionic liquid, where the ionic liquid is not octyltrimethylammonium chloride.

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2. (original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein part or all of the hydrogen halide is passed into the mixture comprising the alcohol and the ionic liquid at temperatures below 100°C and the mixture formed by the addition is heated to temperatures above 100°C for part of the time.

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3. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the reaction is carried out at from 110°C to 150°C.

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4. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any or claims~~ claim 1 to 3 wherein HCl or HBr is used as hydrogen halide.

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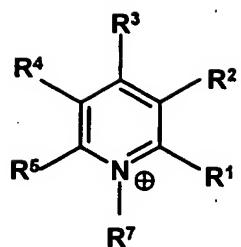
5. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 to 4, wherein an alcohol selected from the group consisting of sec-butanol, isobutanol, 2-ethylhexanol, 2-propylheptanol, isononanol, cyclohexanol, cyclopentanol, glycol, 1,3-propanediol, 1,4-butanediol, 1,5-pantanediol, 1,6-hexanediol, neopentyl glycol, trimethylolpropane, pentaerythritol, glycerol, trimethylethane, 1,2-propanediol, 1,2-butanediol, 2,3-butanediol, allyl alcohol, propargyl alcohol, diethylene glycol and triethylene glycol, in particular selected from the group consisting of 1,6-hexanediol, 1,5-pantanediol, 1,4-butanediol, 1,3-propanediol, glycol, allyl alcohol and propargyl alcohol, is used.

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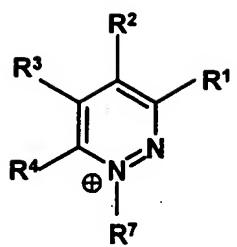
6. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein an ionic liquid which comprises one each of the following cations and anions,

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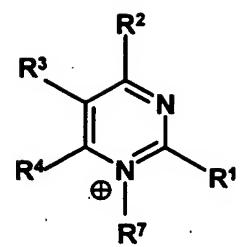
where the cation is selected from the group consisting of:



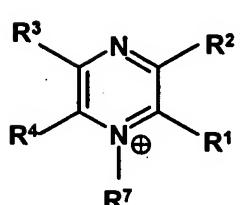
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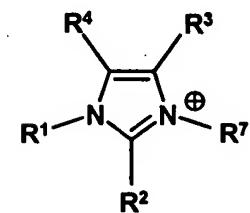
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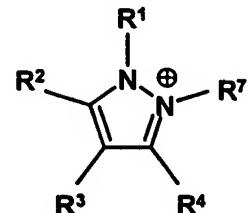
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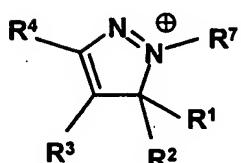
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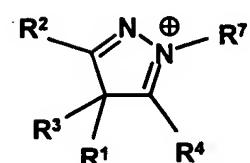
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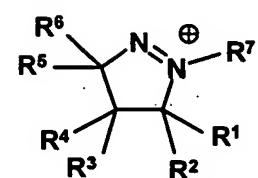
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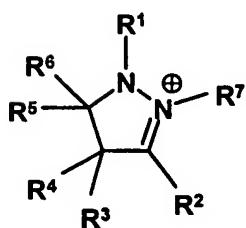
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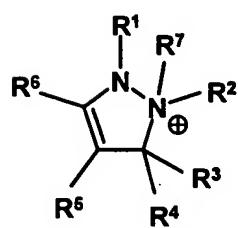
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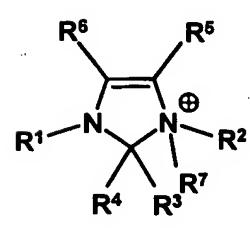
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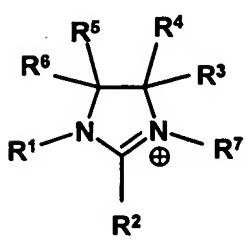
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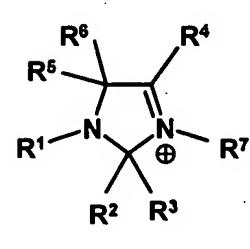
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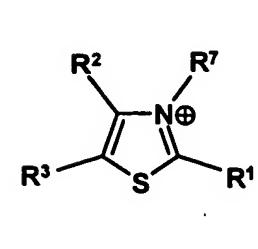
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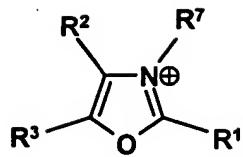
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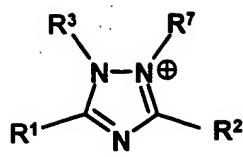
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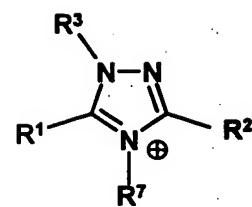
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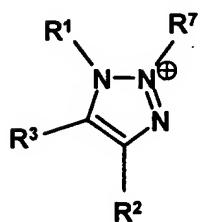
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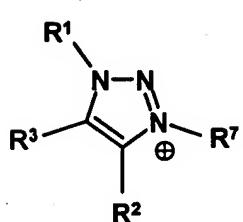
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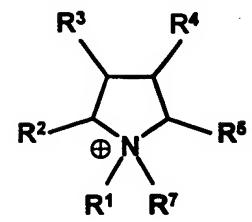
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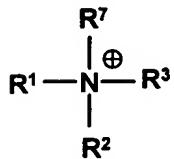
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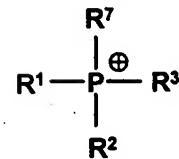


(u)



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(v)



(w)

and also oligomers and polymers in which these structures are present,

10 where

15 $R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6$ and R^7 are each, independently of one another, hydrogen, C_1-C_{18} -alkyl, C_2-C_{18} -alkyl which may be interrupted by one or more oxygen and/or sulfur atoms and/or one or more substituted or unsubstituted imino groups, C_6-C_{12} -aryl, C_5-C_{12} -cycloalkyl or a five- or six-membered, oxygen-, nitrogen- and/or sulfur-containing heterocycle or two of them together form an unsaturated, saturated or aromatic ring which may be interrupted by one or more oxygen and/or sulfur atoms and/or one or more substituted or unsubstituted imino groups, where the radicals mentioned may each be, independently of one another, monosubstituted or polysubstituted by functional groups, 20 aryl, alkyl, aryloxy, alkyloxy, halogen and/or heterocycles, with in the case of the ammonium ions (v), R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^7 not all being an unsubstituted alkyl radical,

R^7 can also be C_1-C_{18} -alkyloyl, C_1-C_{18} -alkyloxycarbonyl, C_5-C_{12} -cycloalkylcarbonyl or C_6-C_{12} -aryloyl, where the radicals mentioned may each be, independently of one another,

monosubstituted or polysubstituted by functional groups, aryl, alkyl, aryloxy, alkyloxy, halogen and/or heterocycles and

5 functional groups are: carboxyl, carboxamide, hydroxyl, amino, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, di(C₁-C₄-alkyl)amino, C₁-C₄-alkyloxycarbonyl, cyano or C₁-C₄-alkyloxy,

and the anion is selected from the group consisting of:

10 halides, alkylcarboxylate, tosylate, sulfonate, dialkylphosphate, bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide, trifluoracetate, triflate, sulfate, hydrogensulfate, methylsulfate, ethylsulfate, sulfite, hydrogensulfite, chloroaluminates, bromoaluminates, nitrite, nitrate, chlorocuprate, phosphate, hydrogenphosphate, dihydrogenphosphate, carbonate and hydrogencarbonate,

15 is used.

7. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 to 6, wherein an ionic liquid which comprises one each of the following cations and anions,

20 where the cation is selected from the group consisting of:

1-methylimidazolium, 1-ethylimidazolium, 1-propylimidazolium, 1-butyylimidazolium, 2-ethylpyridinium, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-n-buty-3-ethylimidazolium, 1,2-dimethylpyridinium, 1-methyl-2-ethylpyridinium, 1-methyl-2-ethyl-6-25 methylpyridinium, N-methylpyridinium, 1-butyl-2-methylpyridinium, 1-butyl-2-ethylpyridinium, 1-butyl-2-ethyl-6-methylpyridinium, N-butylypyridinium, 1-butyl-4-methylpyridinium, 1,3-dimethylimidazolium, 1,2,3-trimethylimidazolium, 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1,3,4,5-tetramethylimidazolium, 1,3,4-trimethylimidazolium, 1,2-dimethylimidazolium, 1-butyl-2,3-dimethylimidazolium, 3,4-dimethylimidazolium, 2-30 ethyl-3,4-dimethylimidazolium, 3-methyl-2-ethylimidazolium, 3-butyl-1-methylimidazolium, 3-butyl-1-ethylimidazolium, 3-butyl-1,2-dimethylimidazolium, 1,3-di-n-butylimidazolium, 3-butyl-1,4,5-trimethylimidazolium, 3-butyl-1,4-dimethylimidazolium, 3-butyl-2-methylimidazolium, 1,3-dibutyl-2-methylimidazolium, 3-butyl-4-methylimidazolium, 3-butyl-2-ethyl-4-methylimidazolium 3-butyl-2-35 ethylimidazolium, 1-methyl-3-octylimidazolium and 1-decyl-3-methylimidazolium,

and the anion is selected from the group consisting of:

40 halides, acetate, methanesulfonate, tosylate, sulfate, hydrogensulfate, phosphate, hydrogenphosphate, dihydrogenphosphate, dialkylphosphate and bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide,

is used.

8. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 to 7, wherein an ionic liquid selected from the group consisting of: 1-methylimidazolium chloride, 1-methylimidazolium bromide, 1-methylimidazolium fluoride, 1-methylimidazolium iodide, 1-methylimidazolium hydrogensulfate, 1-methylimidazolium sulfate, 1-methylimidazolium methanesulfonate, 1-methylimidazolium tosylate, 1-methylimidazolium diethylphosphate, 1-ethylimidazolium chloride, 1-ethylimidazolium bromide, 1-ethylimidazolium fluoride, 1-ethylimidazolium iodide, 1-ethylimidazolium hydrogensulfate, 1-ethylimidazolium sulfate, 1-ethylimidazolium methanesulfonate, 1-ethylimidazolium tosylate, 1-ethylimidazolium diethylphosphate, 1-propylimidazolium chloride, 1-propylimidazolium bromide, 1-propylimidazolium fluoride, 1-propylimidazolium iodide, 1-propylimidazolium hydrogensulfate, 1-propylimidazolium sulfate, 1-propylimidazolium methanesulfonate, 1-propylimidazolium tosylate, 1-propylimidazolium diethylphosphate, 1-butyylimidazolium chloride, 1-butyylimidazolium bromide, 1-butyylimidazolium fluoride, 1-butyylimidazolium iodide, 1-butyylimidazolium hydrogensulfate, 1-butyylimidazolium sulfate, 1-butyylimidazolium methanesulfonate, 1-butyylimidazolium tosylate, 1-butyylimidazolium diethylphosphate, 2-ethylpyridinium chloride, 2-ethylpyridinium bromide, 2-ethylpyridinium iodide, 2-ethylpyridinium hydrogensulfate, 2-ethylpyridinium sulfate, 2-ethylpyridinium methanesulfonate, 2-ethylpyridinium tosylate, 2-ethylpyridinium diethylphosphate, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium fluoride, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium iodide, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium hydrogensulfate, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium sulfate, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium methanesulfonate, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium tosylate, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium diethylphosphate, 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride, 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide, 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium fluoride, 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium iodide, 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium hydrogensulfonate, 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium sulfate, 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium methanesulfonate, 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium tosylate and 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium diethylphosphate,

~~in particular selected from the group consisting of: 1-methylimidazolium chloride, 1-methylimidazolium bromide, 1-methylimidazolium hydrogensulfate, 2-ethylpyridinium chloride, 2-ethylpyridinium bromide, 2-ethylpyridinium hydrogensulfate, 1-ethyl-3~~

~~methylimidazolium chloride, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide and 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium hydrogensulfate,~~

is used.

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9. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to claim 8~~, wherein the ~~haloalkane ionic liquid~~ is isolated selected from the ~~reaction mixture by distillation group~~ consisting of: 1-methylimidazolium chloride, 1-methylimidazolium bromide, 1-methylimidazolium hydrogensulfate, 2-ethylpyridinium chloride, 2-ethylpyridinium bromide, 2-ethylpyridinium hydrogensulfate, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide and 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium hydrogensulfate.

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10. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~, wherein the ~~ionic liquid has a melting point of less than 150°C, in particular less than 100°C. A process as~~ claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~haloalkane is isolated from the reaction mixture by distillation.~~

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11. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of claims claim 1 to 10~~, wherein the ~~reaction is carried out in the presence of from 1 to 3 mol of ionic liquid per mol of OH group to be reacted in the alcohol. has a melting point of less than 150°C.~~

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12. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to claim 11~~, wherein the ~~reaction melting point is carried out in the absence of water or the substantial absence of water at the time of commencement of the reaction less than 100°C.~~

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13. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 12~~, wherein the ~~water liberated in the reaction is continuously removed, in particular distilled off. A process as~~ claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~reaction is carried out in the presence of from 1 to 3 mol of ionic liquid per mol of OH group to be reacted in the alcohol.~~

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14. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the ~~water content in the reaction is carried out in the absence of water or the alcohol with substantial absence of water at the hydrogen halide is not more than 25 mol%, preferably not more than 20 mol%, more preferably not more than 10 mol%, particularly preferably not more than 5 mol%, based on time of commencement of the amount of ionic liquid, over the entire reaction time..~~

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15. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claims 1 to 14, wherein in the case of the reaction of alcohols having more than one OH group per molecule, all OH groups are replaced by halogen.

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16. (new) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the water liberated in the reaction is continuously removed.
- 5 17. (new) A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the water liberated in the reaction is distilled off.
- 10 18. (new) A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the water content in the reaction of the alcohol with the hydrogen halide is not more than 25 mol%, based on the amount of ionic liquid, over the entire reaction time.
19. (new) A process as claimed in claim 18, wherein the water content is not more than 5 mol%, based on the amount of ionic liquid.